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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (previously presented). A polymersome comprising:

(i) a plurality of amphiphilic copolymers comprising amphiphilic block copolymers that comprise at least one hydrophilic polymer bonded to at least one hydrophobic polymer; and

(ii) at least one visible- or near infrared-emissive agent that is dispersed within the polymersome membrane, where said emissive agent emits light in the 700-1100 nm spectral regime and where said emissive agent is an emissive conjugated compound comprising at least two covalently bound moieties; whereby upon exposing said compound to an energy source for a time and under conditions effective to cause said compound to emit light that at a wavelength between 700-1100 nm, said compound exhibits an integral emission oscillator strength that is greater than the emission oscillator strength manifest by either one of the said moieties individually; wherein said emissive agent comprises at least two porphyrin moieties, said porphyrin moieties being linked by a hydrocarbon bridge comprising at least one unsaturated moiety.

2-9 (canceled).

10 (currently amended). The polymersome of claim 1 ~~2~~ where at least one of the emissive agent is an emissive conjugated compound comprising at least two covalently bound moieties; whereby upon exposing said compound to an energy source for a time and under conditions effective to cause said compound to emit light at a wavelength between 700-1100 nm, is of an intensity that is greater than a sum of light emitted by either of covalently bound moieties individually.

11 (canceled).